

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Rine et al.

Serial No. 09/165,460

Filed: October 2, 1998

For: *AFC1 and RCE1: Isoprenylated
CAAX Processing Enzymes*

Group Art Unit: 1652

Examiner: Tung, P.

Attorney Docket No. B96-021-3

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this corr is being transmitted by facsimile to the
Comm for Patents at (203)308-0294 on April 3, 2001.

Signature

Richard Aron Osman

RESPONSEThe Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Examiner Tung:

Thank you for the Office Action dated Mar 27, 2001. Please enter these amendments:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 31-46 as follows:

31. (Amended) A recombinant expression vector comprising a promoter operably linked to an expressed polynucleotide which encodes a polypeptide and hybridizes under highly stringent conditions to a nucleic acid consisting of SEQ ID NO:1, wherein said polypeptide mediates the proteolytic removal of an AAX tripeptide from a prenylated CAAX protein and said highly stringent conditions comprise hybridization and wash conditions selected to be 5° C lower than the thermal melting point (Tm) for said nucleic acid at a defined ionic strength and pH.

32. (Amended) A vector according to claim 31, wherein the polypeptide comprises SEQ ID NO:2 or conservatively modified SEQ ID NO:2.

33. (Amended) A vector according to claim 31, wherein the polypeptide comprises SEQ ID NO:2.